



Presented by the City Attorney's Office
Yibin Shen - City Attorney
Dr. Leigh Grossman - Police Auditor

Police Auditor

Monthly
Report

August
2023

Table of Contents

- Page 1 - Mission Statement & Monthly Activities
- Page 1-6 - APD Data
- Page 7-8 - Organizational Charts

Mission Statement

The Police Auditor's goal is to independently and collaboratively work to promote community confidence in policing and accountability. The Auditor seeks to achieve this goal by working with all interested parties to ensure the Alameda Police Department is held to the highest standards and is in compliance with law and departmental policies. The Auditor's work includes, but is not limited to, reviewing internal affairs cases and use of force incidents and confirming the Department conducts quality investigations, holding its employees accountable if a violation of law or policy occurs. This work aims to increase transparency and the public's confidence in the police department by publicly releasing monthly and annual reports, by making recommendations to the Department on best practices, and by working with the public to ensure the police department is treating all members of the community with the respect and consideration they deserve while also, meeting its public safety obligations.

Police Auditor Activities for the Month of August

- Attended CompStat and Professional Standards meetings.
- Reviewed completed internal affairs cases and worked with Dept. staff to update investigative process for certain cases.
- Began inspection of weapon displays.

Complaints

In August 2023, APD received two complaints. Both complaints were internally generated by a member of APD. The two complaints are currently being investigated. The Department has one year from the date they learned of the complaint to come to a finding and issue any discipline.

From January 2023 to the end of August, APD received thirteen complaints. Three complaints were externally generated and ten were internally generated. Compared to the same period last year, there has been a 30% increase in the number of complaints being investigated by APD.

Externally generated complaints come from anyone who is not an employee of APD. Internally generated complaints can be due to suspected misconduct discovered during a review of body camera footage or a report, by viewing suspected misconduct in person, during an audit or inspection of APD policies and procedures, or if a member comes forward and admits to

a violation. Since at least 2021, more complaints have been generated internally by APD than externally by members of the public.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Externally Generated Cases	0	5	3
Internally Generated Cases	2	5	10
Total Complaint Cases Received	2	10	13

The Police Auditor reviewed the two cases that closed in August 2023 and did not object to the findings. The review included watching body camera footage, reading reports, and listening to interviews as necessary to make a determination.

Use of Force

Police officers in Alameda are expected to resort to using force only when alternatives such as communication, crisis intervention, and de-escalation tactics do not work or are not practical. Officers are required to only use the minimum amount of force necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement objective that is objectively reasonable and proportional to effectively and safely overcome resistance. Information about use of force can be found beginning on page 78 of the [Alameda Police Department Policy Manual](#).

For the purposes of this report, force is broken into four categories:

- Incidents where officers displayed a weapon such as a firearm or taser but no other force was used,
- Low level uses of force such as control holds or takedowns,
- Intermediate uses of force such as punches, knee strikes, or taser deployments, and
- Force resulting in serious bodily injury or death and all firearm discharges directed at a person.

In this report, force is counted by incident and the highest level of force used.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Pointing of a Weapon	3	9	23
Low Level Force (control holds/WRAP* etc.)	5	5	38
Intermediate Force (strikes by hands, feet, or weapon, TASER deployments, etc.)	0	4	2
Force Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury or Death	0	0	0

*A WRAP is a device used to restrain individuals who present a safety risk to themselves or officers even after being handcuffed.

Compared to 2022, there has been a large increase in low level uses of force. The increase in low level force incidents is correlated with a training directed by the Chief that occurred in October 2022 which requires that all use of force be categorized and investigated as either a low- or intermediate-level use of force. Prior to this training, things such as pain compliance techniques and control holds on a noncompliant subject would not have a separate force report and investigation, documentation would only occur in the incident report. See the July 2023 report for a graph depicting force and when the training occurred. Incidents involving intermediate uses of force have decreased 50% compared to 2022.

Each use of force is reviewed by a supervisor to ensure compliance with Departmental policy.

Following the release of the July 2023 report, it was noted there were no incidents where a weapon display was the highest use of force for February - April 2023. These months appeared to be outliers given most months had at least one incident and the month of May had eight. Because of this, the Police Auditor began an inspection to determine whether incidents were appropriately being reported. The inspection should be completed and released to the public in the next few months.

Arrests

In the month of August, Alameda Police arrested 29 individuals for felonies. This year, felony arrests have increased 19% while arrests for misdemeanors or infractions have decreased 35%.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Felony	22	223	266
Misdemeanor/Infraction	29	510	334
Total	51	733	600

Calls for Service

The APD received 5,600 calls for service during the month of August this year. There has been a 9% increase in calls for service this year compared to the same period last year.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Calls for Service (excluding Fire)	5,600	37,254	40,590

Pursuits

In August 2023, there were no pursuits initiated by a member of APD. In June 2023, there was one pursuit initiated by a member of APD. An officer initiated a pursuit after identifying a vehicle suspected of being involved in a felony crime. The officer pursued the vehicle for one minute before the pursuit was terminated. There were no injuries or damage to property during the pursuit. Officers are authorized to initiate a pursuit when:

- A suspect was involved in a violent felony and posed an ongoing and specific threat to public safety or
- A person suspected of committing a crime was believed to be armed with a firearm and posed an ongoing and specific threat to public safety.

To date this year, there has been one pursuit. Last year during the same period, there was also one pursuit.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Pursuits	0	1	1

Collisions Involving APD Employees

Collisions involving APD employees occurred four times between January and August 2023 which is the same number compared to the same period last year. There were no collisions in the months of June, July, or August. APD personnel have been found at fault in three of the four incidents this year. In all of the incidents where the employee was at fault, they hit a parked vehicle or fixed object and there was minimal damage.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Collisions	0	4	4

Stops

In the first eight months of 2023, the APD completed 3,701 stops, a 19% increase compared to 2022 during the same period. Stop forms are required by the State of California when an individual is detained or searched. Data is required to be submitted to the State on an annual basis. Every time a stop is made and a form is required, officers select one of the six stop reasons below.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Consensual encounter resulting in search	0	33	20
Investigation to determine if person is truant	0	30	5
Knowledge of outstanding arrest warrant/wanted person	7	45	60
Known to be on parole/probation/PRCS/mandatory supervision	0	20	14
Reasonable suspicion that this person was engaged in criminal activity	52	466	464
Traffic Violation	723	3,004	3,701
Total	782	3,598	4,264

Traffic stops made up 87% of stops so far in 2023.

These violations are broken into three categories:

- Moving violations: Ex. speeding, running a red light
- Equipment violations: Ex. brake lights off or not working, license plate missing
- Non-moving violation, including registration: Ex. expired registration tags

90% of traffic stops involved moving violations so far in 2023.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Equipment violation	54	259	281
Moving violation	656	2,630	3,332
Non-moving violation, including registration	13	115	88
Total	723	3,004	3,701

So far in 2023, individuals perceived as white have comprised 29% of traffic stops and individuals perceived as Hispanic/Latine(x) have comprised 23%. There is no universally agreed upon way to determine whether a group is being stopped disproportionately. One identified method for traffic stops is to compare the stop percentages to the demographics of those involved as drivers in collisions reported to APD. Collision data in this case is being used as a proxy for drivers in Alameda.

Jan-Aug 2023	% Traffic Violation Stops	% Collisions Reported to APD
Asian	17.9%	25.4%
Black/African American	18.9%	15.5%
Hispanic/Latine(x)	23.3%	19.2%
Other/Unknown	10.1%	8.5%
Two or More Races	0.7%	N/A
White	29.2%	31.5%
Total	100%	100%

Between January and August 2023, Asian drivers have been involved in 25% of collisions reported to APD. They comprised 18% of traffic violation stops. Hispanic/Latine(x) drivers were pulled over in 23% of traffic stops and were involved in 19% of collisions reported to APD.

Two limitations of this data are that it does not include incidents not reported to APD and it does not involve information on suspect vehicles involved in “hit and runs”.

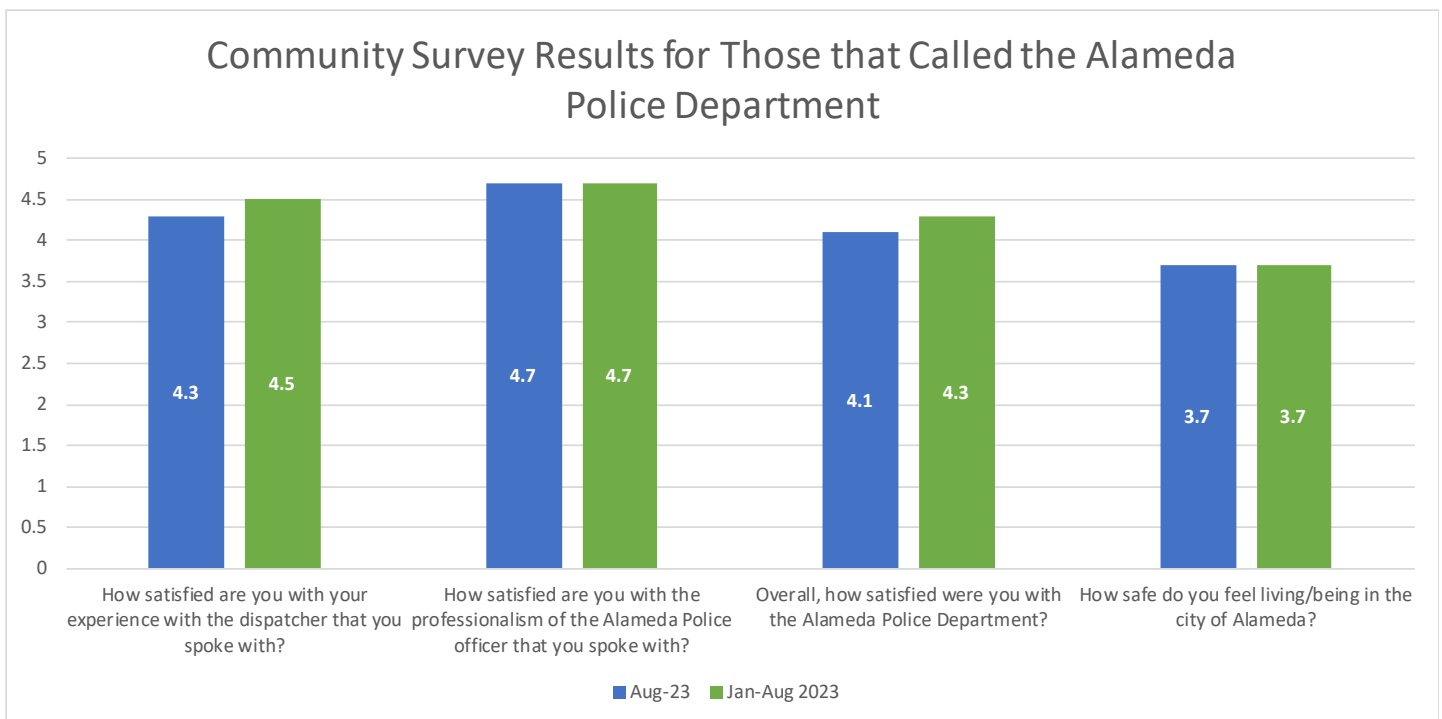
Community Surveys

The APD uses software to send individuals who make a call for service, are victims of a crime, or individuals who have involvement with an investigation a survey to gather feedback on their interaction with the police. In August 2023, 1,223 survey invites were sent. Two-hundred and forty-one (241) respondents completed the survey for a completion rate of 20%. This is below the year to date completion rate of 23%.

The survey results for those that called the APD can be found in the chart below. Respondents can select from the following responses:

Score	How Satisfied are you...	How Safe do you...
1	Very Dissatisfied	Not safe at all
2	Dissatisfied	Not safe
3	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Neither safe or unsafe
4	Satisfied	Safe
5	Very Satisfied	Extremely Safe

On average, there is very little difference between the responses for the month of August and the responses year to date although there is a slight decline in the satisfaction with dispatchers and satisfaction overall with the Department. Respondents feel between satisfied and very satisfied with their experience with the APD. For safety, respondents on average feel between neither safe or unsafe and safe.



Litigation and Administrative Claims

There have been nine administrative claims and one lawsuit filed in 2023. In August, there were no claims or litigation filed. Of the nine administrative claims in 2023, 56% (5 out of 9) were for vehicle tows.

	Aug 2023	Jan-Aug 2022	Jan-Aug 2023
Claims Filed	0	9	9
Litigation Filed	0	0	1

Training Hours

The APD provides internal and external training opportunities to its employees. In the month of August, sworn staff completed 716 training hours and professional staff completed 40 training hours. Training consisted of the following topics: emergency vehicle operations, K9 refresher, crisis negotiations, field sobriety tests, report writing, and supervision. The professional staff training included a records clerk course. The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requires 24 hours of continued professional training and 18 hours of perishable skills training every two years.

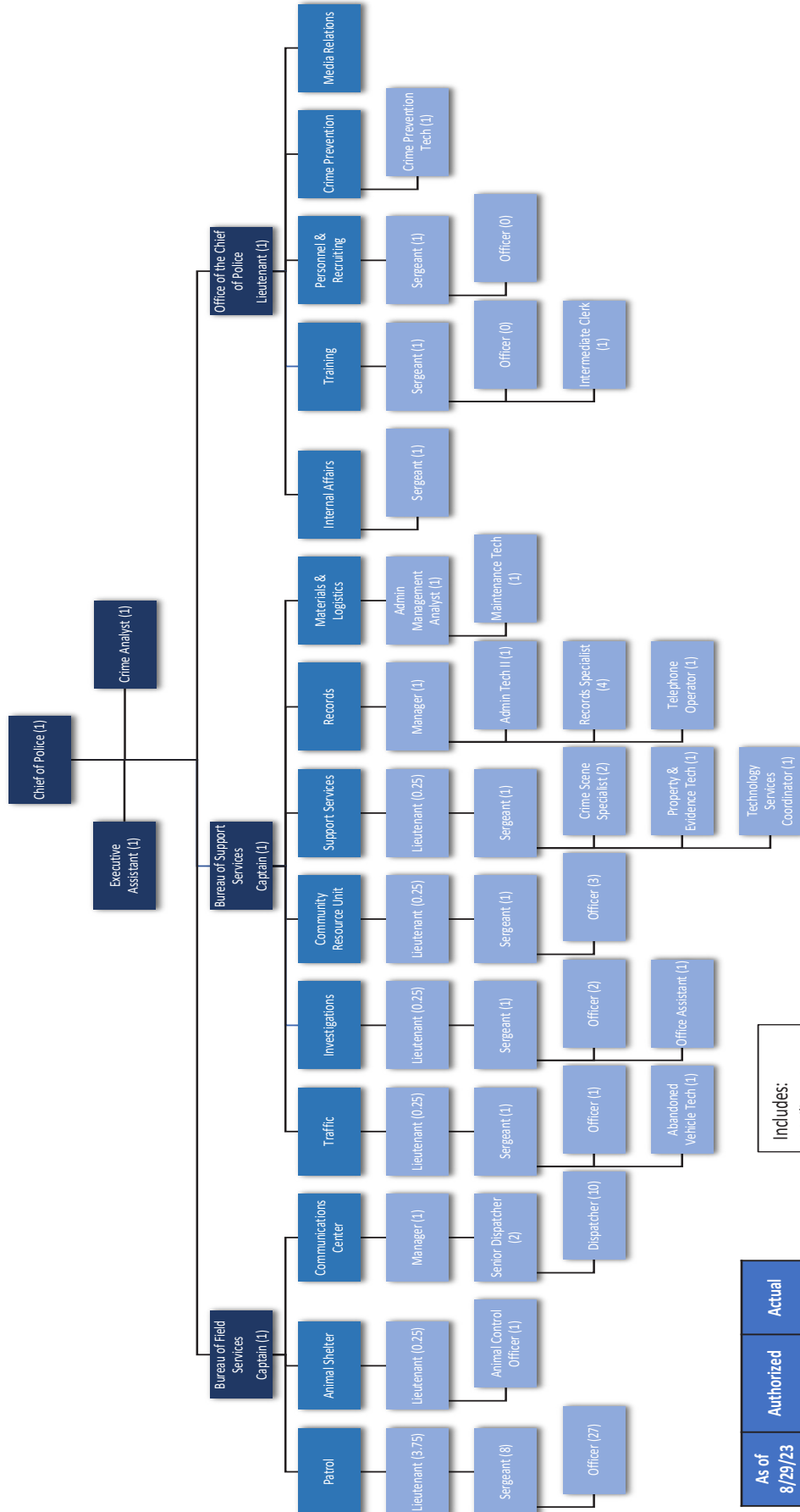
Other Employee Information

The APD is authorized to have 88 sworn members and 34 professional staff members. As of the end of August 2023, the Department had 67 sworn employees and 32 professional staff which is the same as in the month of July. Seventeen sworn employees are on probation because they are new hires or because of a promotion. One sworn employee is on light duty meaning there are certain restrictions on their assignment due to injury. There is one sworn employee currently on administrative leave and four sworn employees on medical leave.

The end of this report includes organizational charts for the Department and for patrol. Currently, 27 officers are assigned to patrol. Six officers have other assignments within the Department. Not counted in the organizational chart are the officers on leave, out due to injury, or in field training (new officers). The Department maintains 24/7 coverage but due to the low number of officers, it struggles to provide more than minimum coverage at any one time. From 2:45am to 11:29am, minimum staffing is four patrol officers. From 11:30am to 2:44am, minimum staffing is seven officers. Mandatory overtime per month varies depending on need to help ensure staffing is adequate. Over the past four months, officers have been required to complete between 15 and 25 hours of overtime per month.

	Sworn Staff	Professional Staff
# of Authorized Positions	88	34
# of Filled Positions	67	32
# of Employees on Probation (new hires or promotions)	17	4
# of Employees on Light Duty	1	0
# of Employees on Administrative Leave	1	0
# of Employees on Military Leave	1	0
# of Employees on Medical Leave	4	3

ALAMEDA POLICE DEPARTMENT Organizational Chart (Current Staffing)



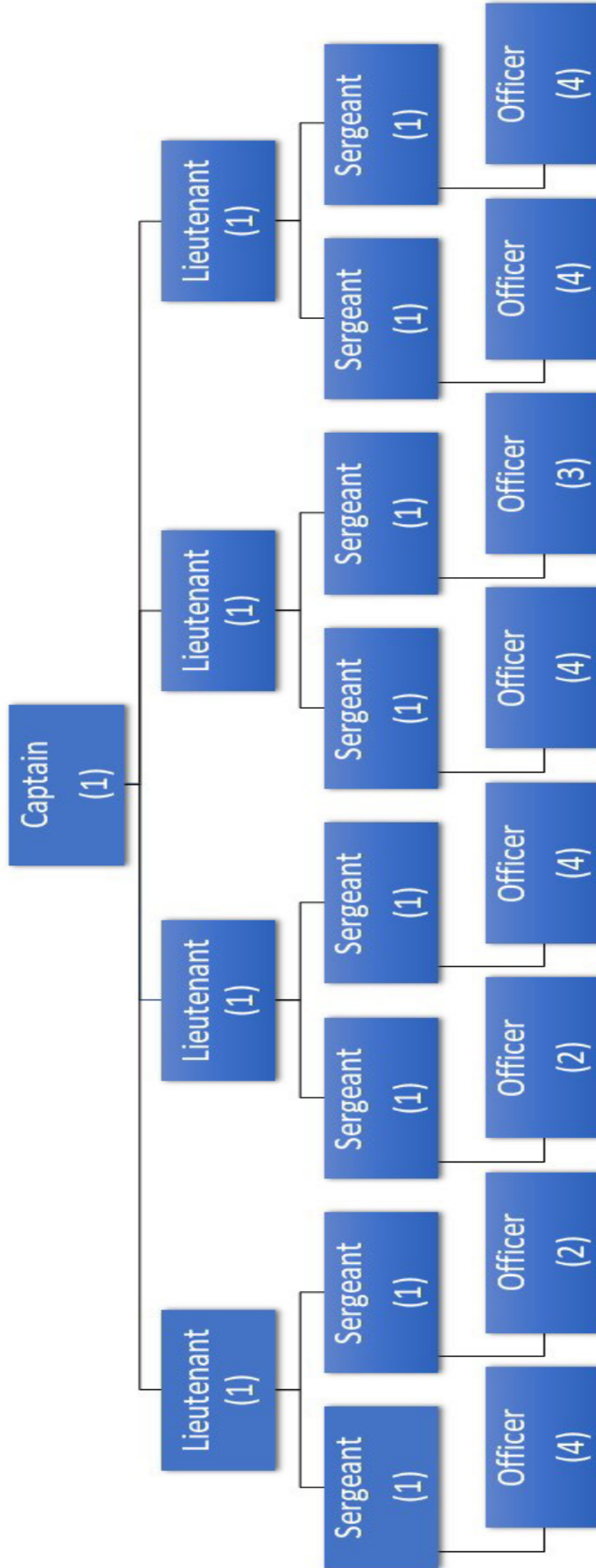
Additional Info:
• 8 recruits in the academy

Includes:
1 Military Leave
1 Admin Leave
5 Injury
3 Trainees
(not counted in org chart)

As of 8/29/23	Authorized	Actual
Chief	1	1
Capt	2	2
Lt	6	6
Sgt	15	15
Ofc	64	43



ALAMEDA POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL Organizational Chart (Current Staffing)



Current as of 9/5/2023